

CHAPTER 17:

SOCIAL WORK SERVICES

COATESVILLE VA MEDICAL CENTER: SOCIAL WORK PROGRAMS

**For program information, please contact CVAMC Social Work Department,
Phyllis Hartman, LCSW, Social Work Executive at 610-384-7711 x 6150 / 5155 OR
Mary Pearce, LCSW, Social Work Manager at 610-384-7711 x 6150 / 5155**

About the Program: Social Work at Coatesville VAMC is an integral part of health care. We help Veterans and their families with problems associated with the stress of a medical or mental health illness.

Social workers help Veterans find resources to meet their needs within the VA system and in their community such as —

- Home health services
- Legal services
- Transportation
- Community living

Services Offered

Social work offers counseling:

- To Veterans with drug, alcohol, and emotional concerns
- To help Veterans and their families understand and adjust to a medical and/ mental health illness /disability
- To Veterans and family members who want to prepare advance directives and durable powers of attorney for health care or finances
- To help Veterans and their families cope with terminal illness, medical illnesses, mental health illnesses and their recovery
- To family members about legal issues such as commitment and guardianship

Counseling is conducted through:

- one-on-one discussions
- family conferences
- group classes

* Source: <http://www.coatesville.va.gov/services/socialwork.asp>; Social Work Programs info via Social work Executive on Social Work Programs, P. Hartman, 6/2009

VISUAL IMPAIRMENT SERVICES

COATESVILLE VA MEDICAL CENTER Visual Impairment Services Team (VIST)

Program Name: VIST (Visual Impairment Services Team) Coordinator

Location: 1400 Black Horse Hill Rd, Bldg 2, Room 113
Coatesville, PA

Program is for: legally blind or severely visually impaired Veterans

Available services: Referral to VA Blind Rehab Services and Low Vision Clinic services, referrals to community agencies for the blind; issuance of low vision prosthetic equipment, support and assistance with regard to severe visual impairment issues

Inclusion/Exclusion criteria: Legal Blindness diagnosis OR Severe Visual Impairment which exists when an individual is unable to read, travel independently, recognize faces, or perform activities of daily living based on impaired vision.

Refer to the program by: Contacting Michelle Focht, LCSW at 610-384-7711 x3929, pager 133, or by email

When referring please make sure: Order an Optometry Consult if Veteran has not had a previous eye examination within the past year

*Source: Visual Impairment Services info/Coordinator, M. Focht, verified 6/09

Community Resource

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic
Ginger Murphy. Educational Outreach
215 W. Church Road, Suite 111
King of Prussia, PA 19406-3209
610-265-8090 ext. 21
gmurphy@rfgd.org

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic is a nonprofit organization that serves all individuals who cannot effectively read standard print because of visual impairment, physical disability or learning disability. Founded in 1948 to originally serve Veterans of World War II, RFBandD currently provides services to more than 180,000 individuals nationwide. RFBandD's digitally recorded textbooks on CD provide unprecedented navigation, ease of use and proven effectiveness as learning tools for people with print disabilities to earn college and graduate degrees as well as pursue professional development.

*Verified via Thomas McElwee; 6/2009